

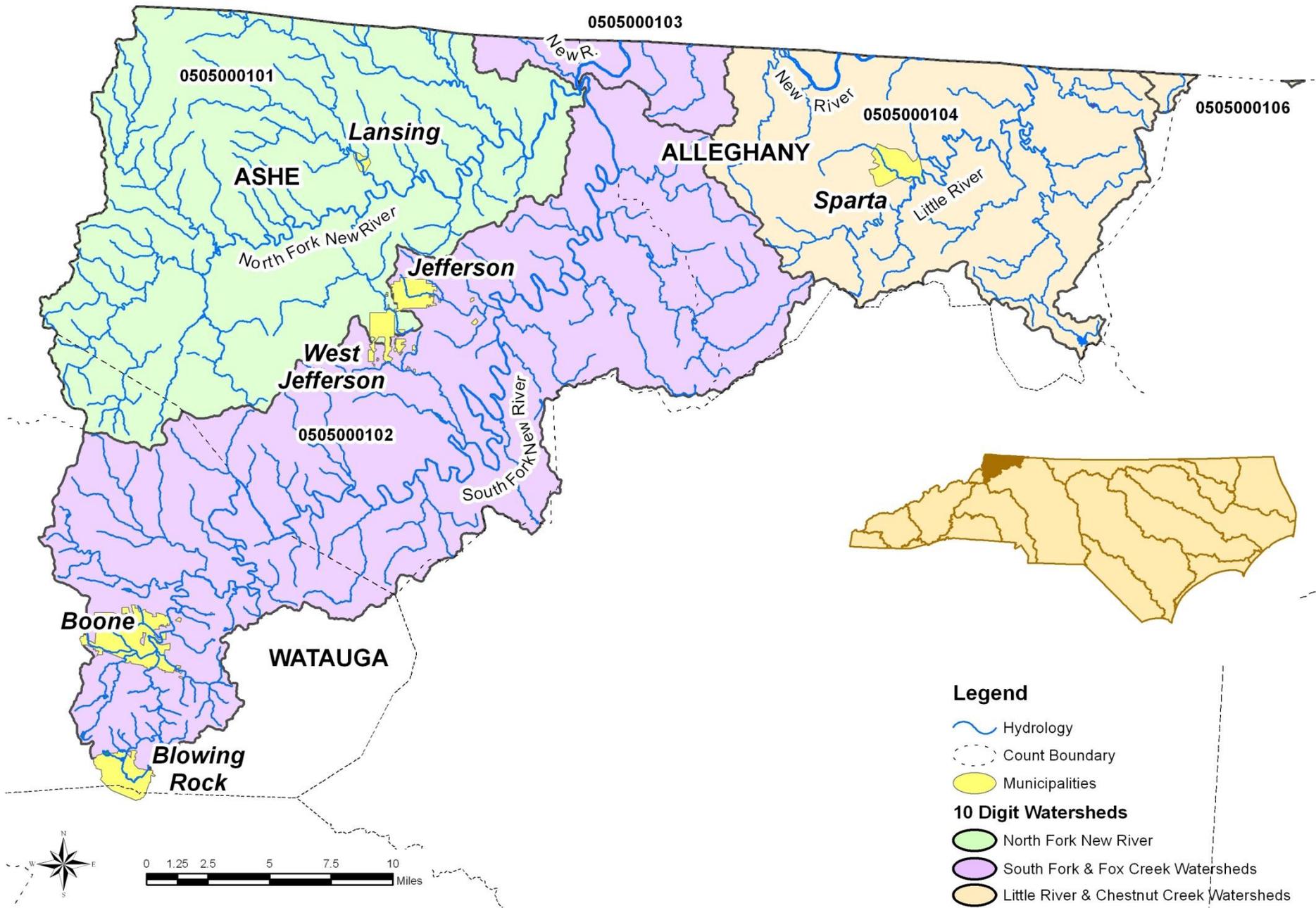
Requesting Final Approval of 2011 New River Basinwide Water Quality Plan

Melanie Williams

Presentation Outline

- Overview of Basin
- Impaired Waters
- Water Quality Update
- Issues / Actions / Needs
- Other Actions
- Request final approval

New River Basin



Legend

 Hydrology

 County Boundary

 Municipalities

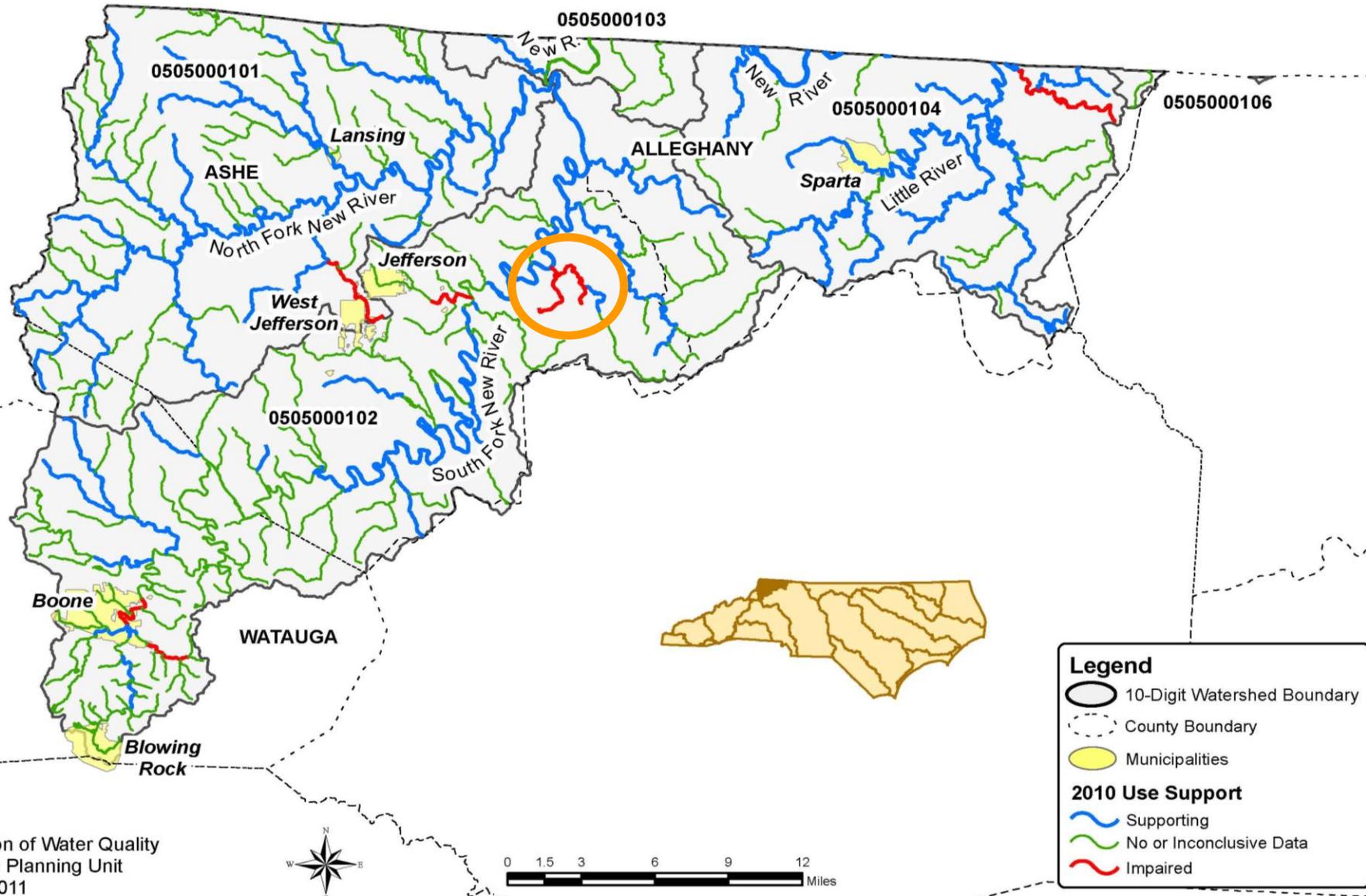
10 Digit Watersheds

 North Fork New River

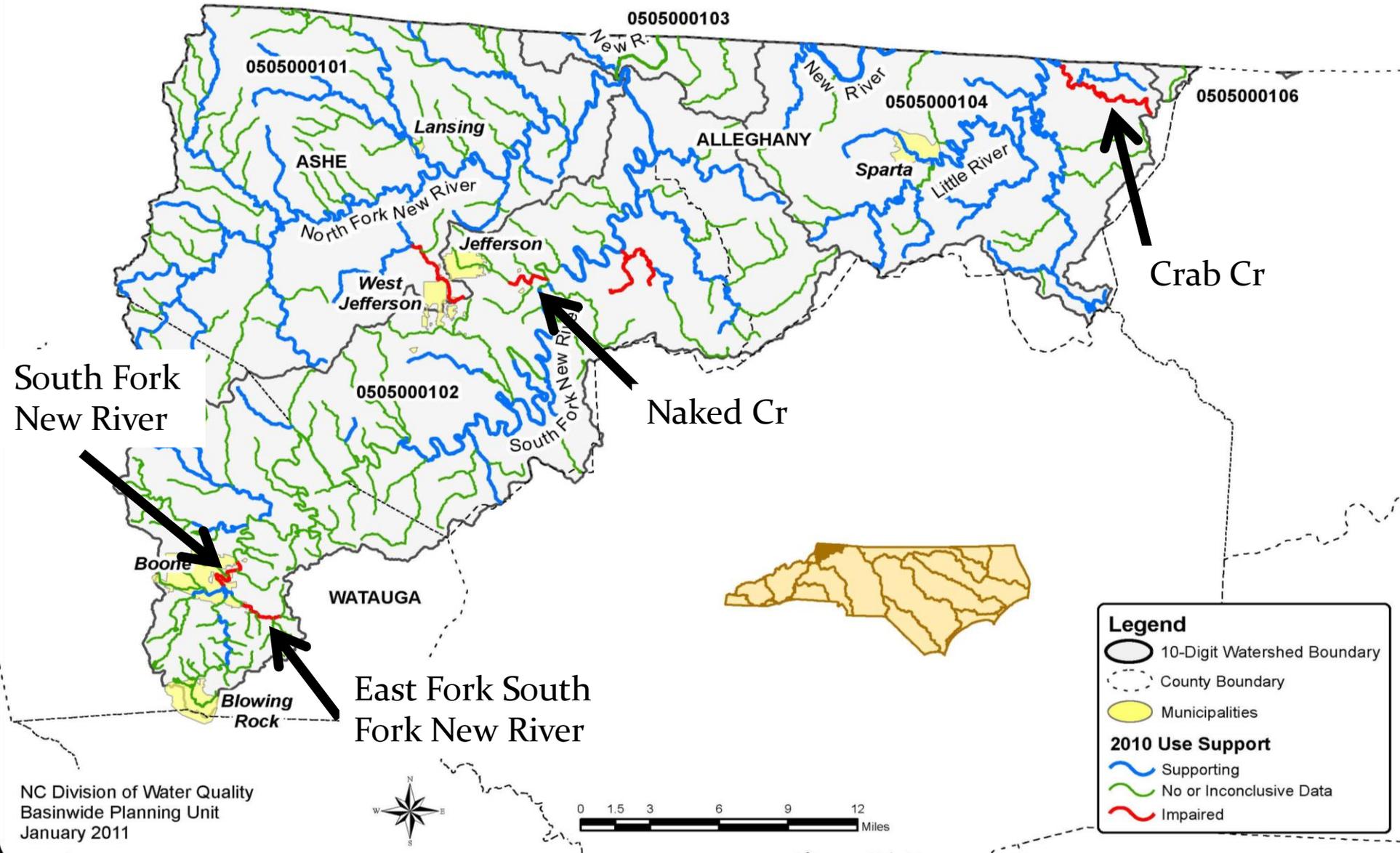
 South Fork & Fox Creek Watersheds

 Little River & Chestnut Creek Watersheds

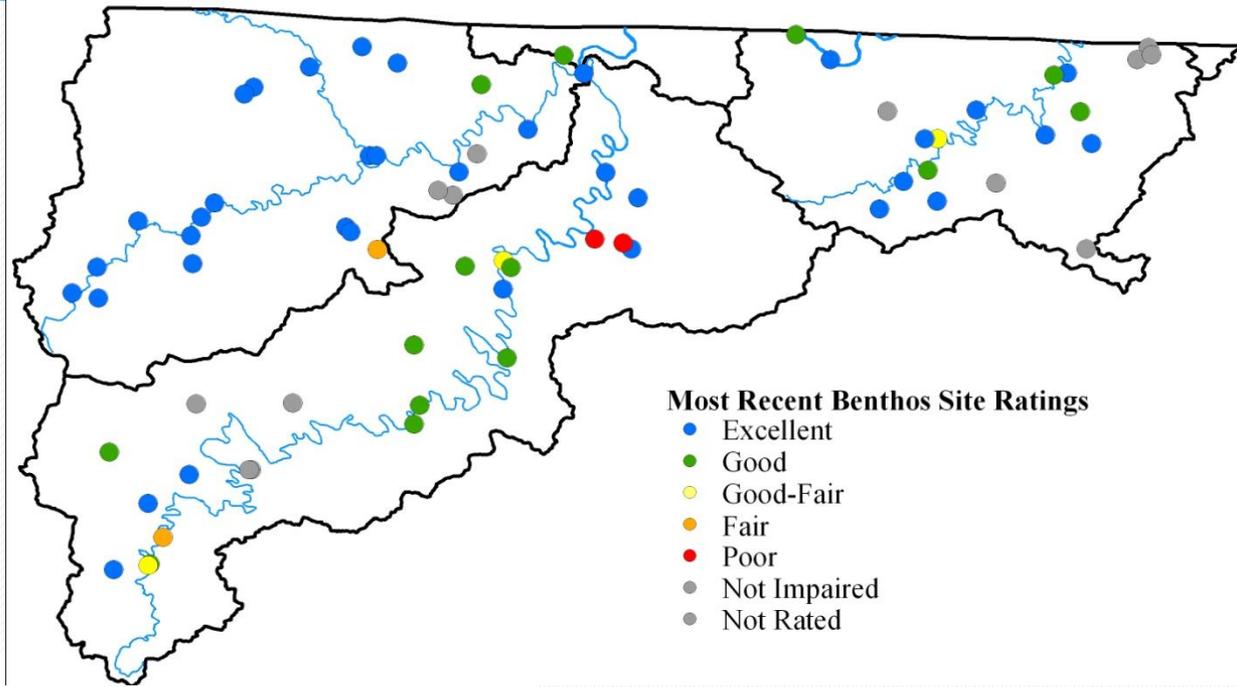
2010 Impaired Waters in the New River Basin



New Impairments During this Cycle

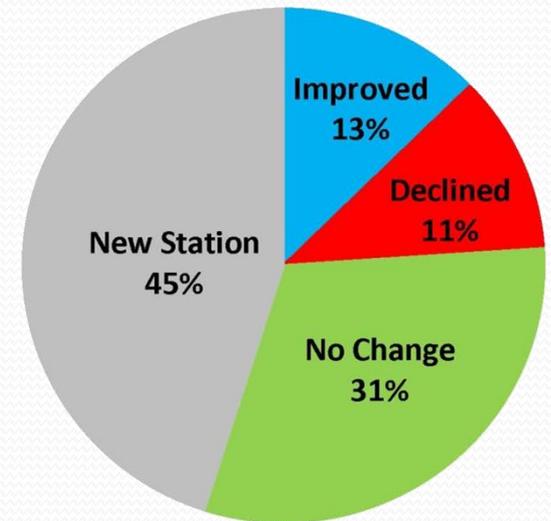
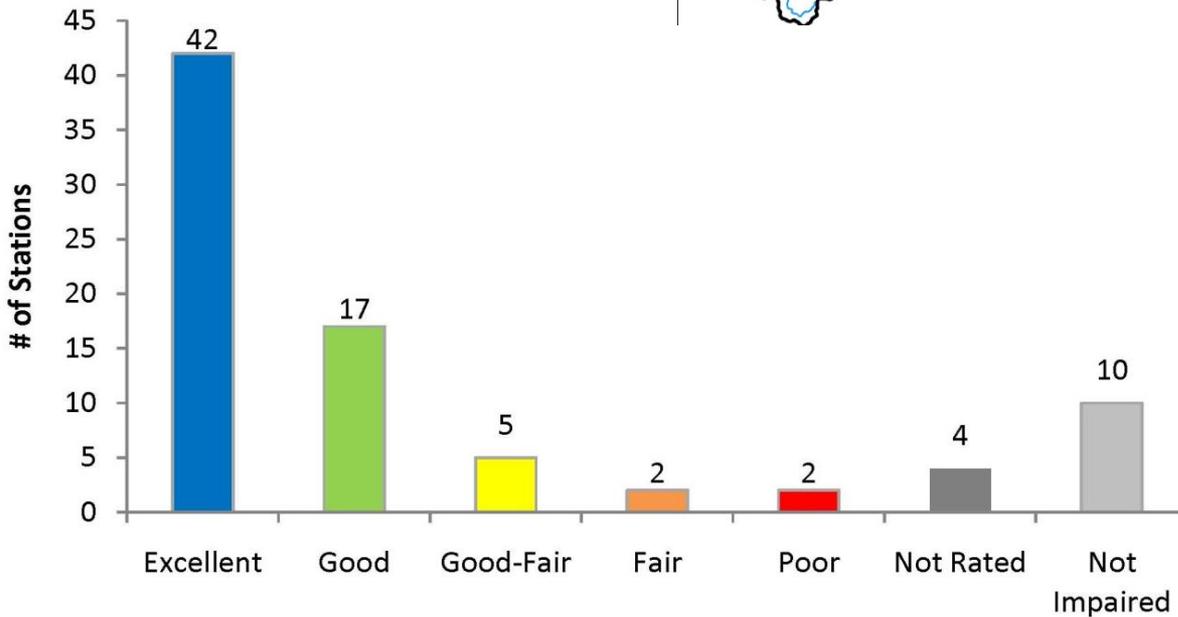


Benthic Community Health

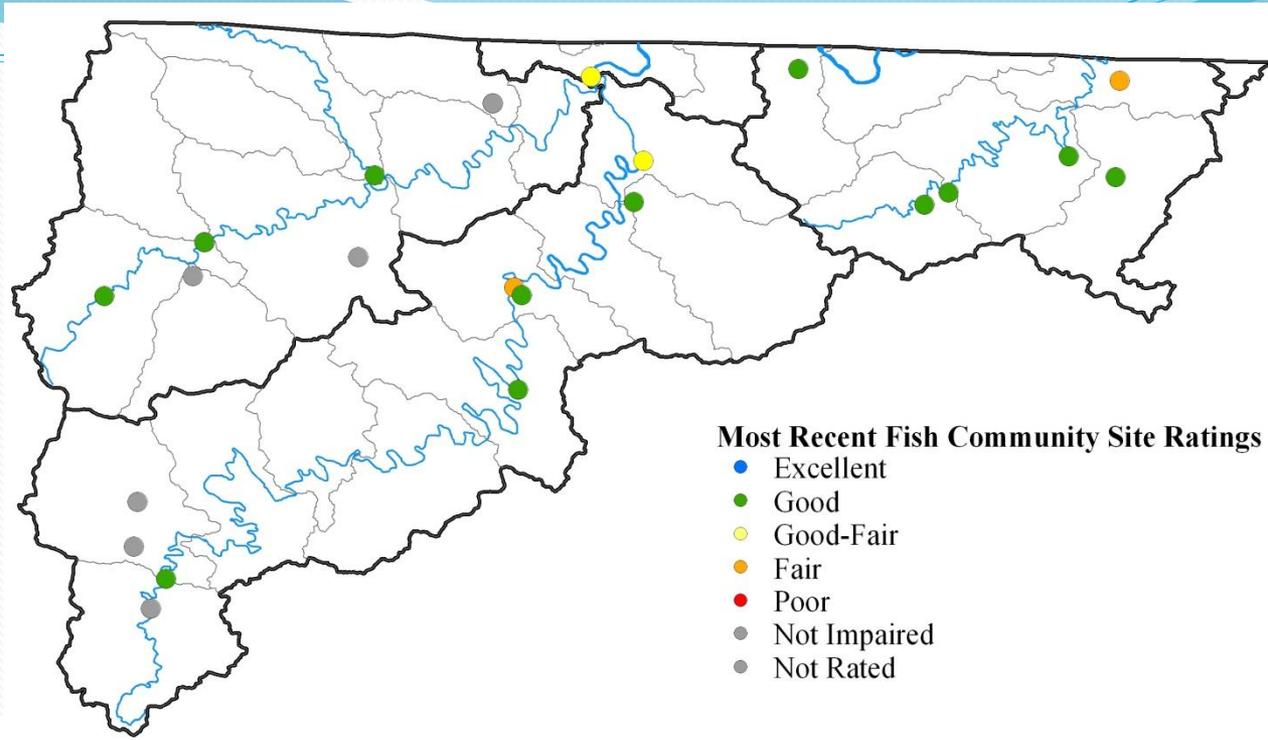


Most Recent Benthos Site Ratings

- Excellent
- Good
- Good-Fair
- Fair
- Poor
- Not Impaired
- Not Rated

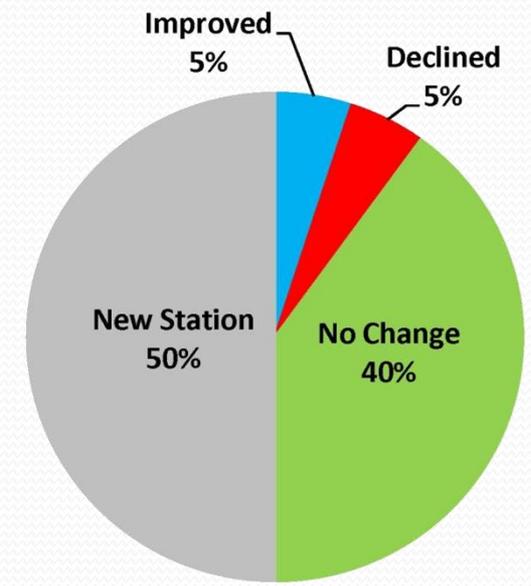
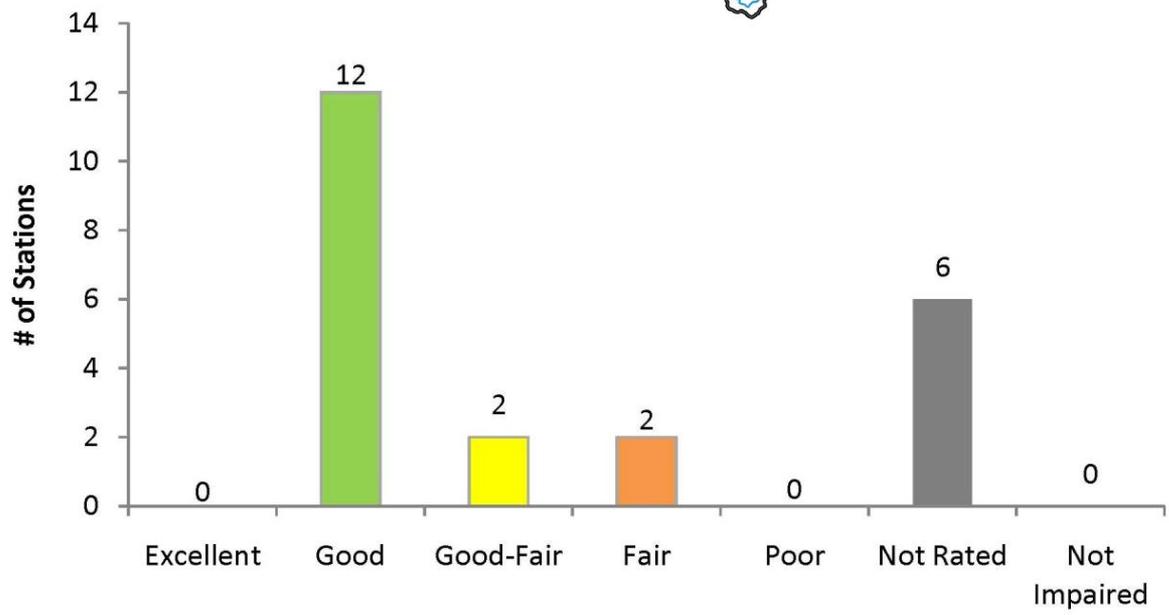


Fish Community Health



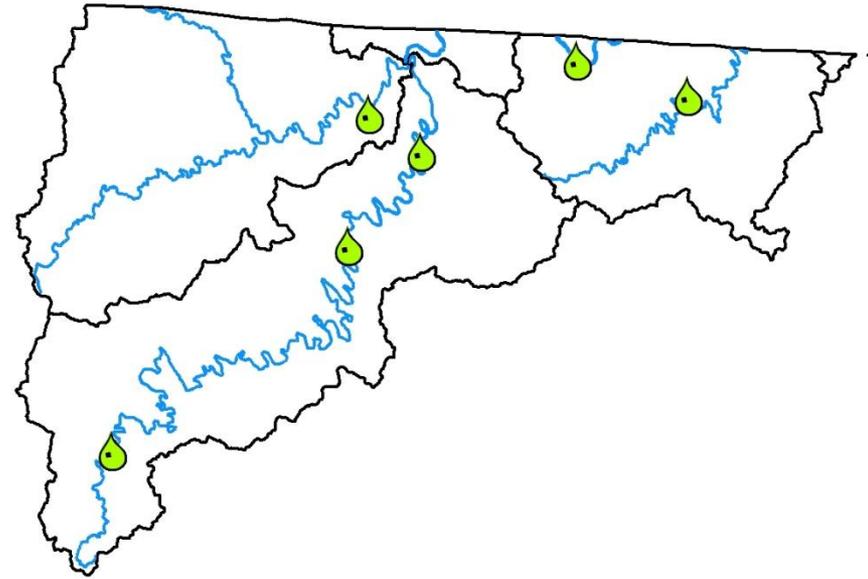
Most Recent Fish Community Site Ratings

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Physical/Chemical Water Quality Changes

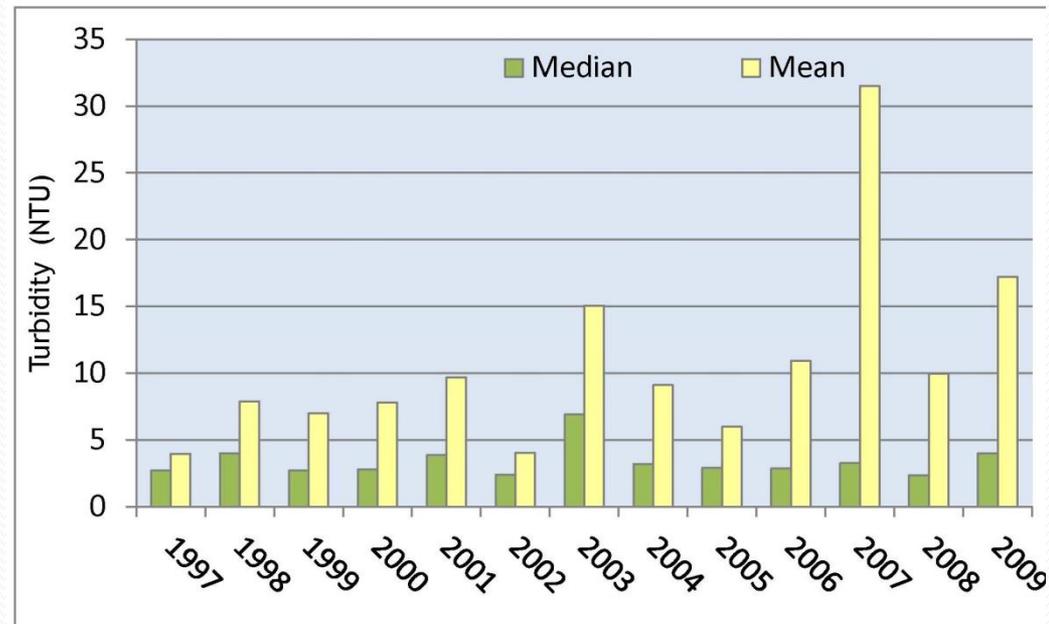
- Turbidity
 - Long term (1998-2009) increasing trend
 - Remains well below state standard
- pH
 - Long term (1998-2009) increasing trend
 - Opposite of what is being seen throughout western NC
- Fecal Coliform Bacteria
 - Increased (2003 & 2007)



Physical/Chemical Water Quality Changes

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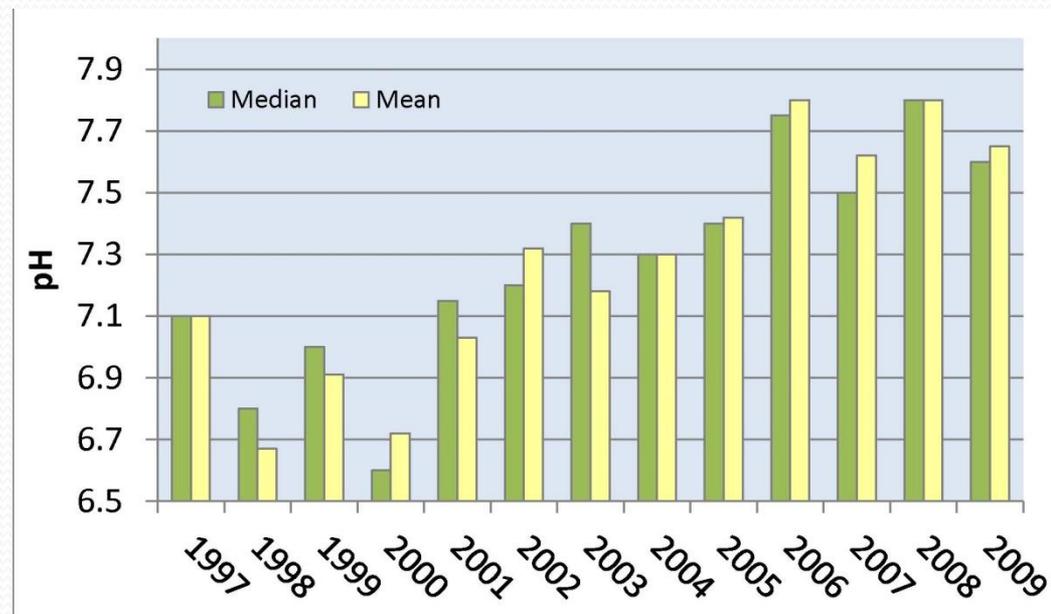
Average Turbidity Levels in the New River Basin



Physical/Chemical Water Quality Changes

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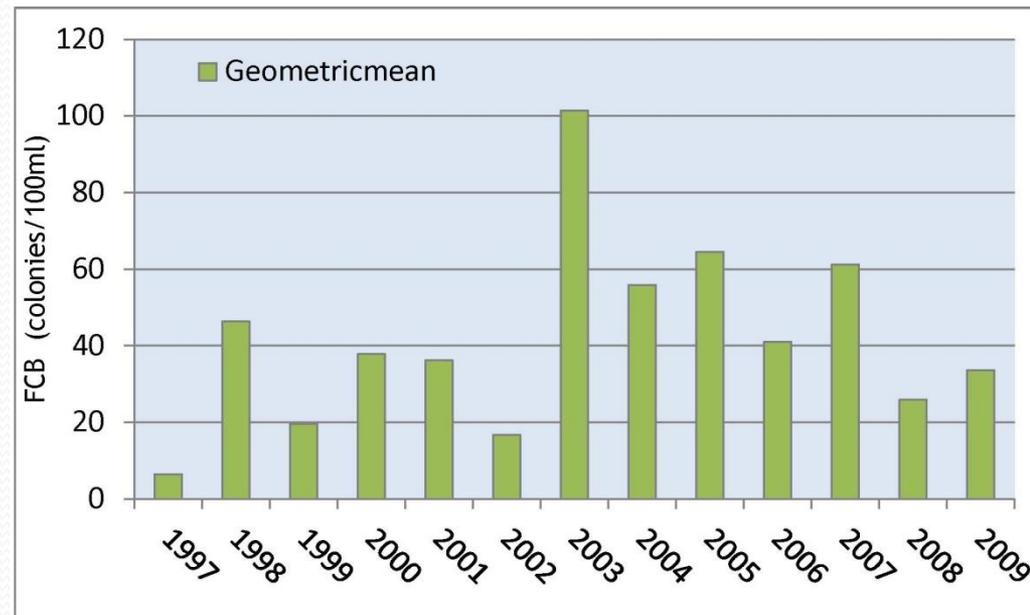
Average pH Levels in the New River Basin



Physical/Chemical Water Quality Changes

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Average Fecal Coliform Bacteria Levels in the New River Basin



Issues / Actions / Needs

| Issues | Actions | Basin Needs |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Sedimentation | | |
| Rising pH Levels | | |
| Elevated Fecal Coliform Bacteria | | |

Issues / Actions / Needs

| Issues | Actions | Basin Needs |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Sedimentation | Fence out livestock; Education of Ag BMPs; WSRO reducing sediment from construction sites; Working with local watershed groups | |
| Rising pH Levels | | |
| Elevated Fecal Coliform Bacteria | Fence out livestock | |

Issues / Actions / Needs

| Issues | Actions | Basin Needs |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Sedimentation | Fence out livestock; Education of Ag BMPs; WSRO reducing sediment from construction sites; Working with local watershed groups | Pinpoint Turbidity Sources Riparian & Trout Water Buffers Education |
| Rising pH Levels | | Determine Cause of Increasing pH |
| Elevated Fecal Coliform Bacteria | Fence out livestock | Identify Failing Septic Systems/Straight Pipes Continue fencing out livestock efforts |

An aerial photograph of a rural town nestled in a valley. The town features a central commercial area with several buildings and parking lots, surrounded by residential areas with houses and trees. The landscape is characterized by rolling green hills and fields, with dense forests covering the surrounding mountains. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

Request Final Approval of the 2011 New River Basinwide Water Quality Plan

Questions?